

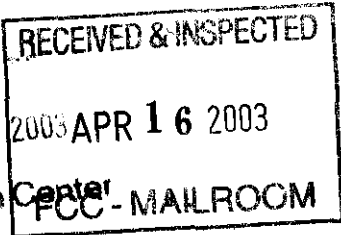
Andrea H. Osborne
1304 Charland Court • Raleigh, NC 27603 • (919) 733-8415

02-277

April 11, 2003

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Confirm



FCC Commissioner Michael K. Powell ✓
FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioners Powell, Abernathy & Martin,

I am writing you regarding the FCC's review of media-ownership rules and your dogged determination to serve big business and ignore the thousands of small station owners around the country. I do not know how you can, in good conscience, rush due process and vote to lift ownership caps. You are flying in the face of the principles of this country.

I am a citizen of the state of North Carolina and a citizen of the United States. I believe in democracy and my right to have a voice and be heard. You have flagrantly ignored Commissioners Copps and Adelstein in their attempts to actually listen to what the people of the United States want. The two of them understand that broadcasters get their airwaves for free, which means they have an obligation to serve the public interest. You are in Washington, DC, because someone who was elected appointed you. I vote every time the polls are open, in primary elections and even small local elections. I take my responsibility as a United States citizen seriously.

You obviously do not understand or simply do not like democracy. You are listening to the voices of big corporations who put money in your pockets. Beware that you can fly high with them as long as they want you, and then you'll be dropped in the dirt when they tire of you. On the other hand, if you would listen to small business, local communities and independent broadcasters, you would have supporters for life. Teddy Roosevelt busted monopolies because they were bad for our country. They destroyed the small entrepreneur and variety and fixed prices and created a vanilla landscape.

The United States stands for diversity and holds dear the principle that anyone can succeed. If big business is allowed to stamp out all competition, just anyone cannot succeed. How can I possibly hope to have a voice if you only listen to wealthy corporation owners?

I listened intently to the open hearing Commissioners Copps and Adelstein held in Durham, North Carolina, on March 31, 2003. Local singer/songwriter Tift Merritt spoke passionately about the independent, small performer's need to be able to compete and be played on the radio. If giants like Clear Channel are in charge, we will only be listening to what a few people want us to hear. That sounds awfully close to Big Brother to me. You've already snuffed the flame of many small radio stations and killed the chances of fledgling songwriters and performers. Will you not stop until you have done that to television, too?

I work for Capitol Broadcasting Company, who runs the most respected television news business in the state, a company that also has earned the respect of people nationwide. This family-owned company will not be able to compete with major networks and corporations who gobble up the stations around us and control the bidding process for syndicated shows.

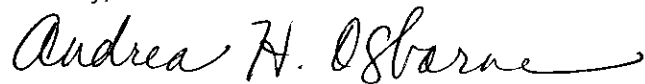
Media consolidation is not good for our country. Would you prefer the Al Jazeera to do the broadcasting for us? But let's be honest. With no ownership caps the government would not be

Andrea H. Osborne
Page 2
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I beg you to reconsider lifting the ownership cap for broadcasters. Diversity and freedom of speech are what makes the United States and democracy work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea H. Osborne". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping underline.

Andrea H. Osborne
Citizen of the United States

cc: FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps
FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
US President George W. Bush
US Senator Elizabeth Dole (NC)
US Senator John Edwards (NC)
US Representative Richard Burr (NC)
US Representative David Price (NC)
NC Governor Mike Easley

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APR 16 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

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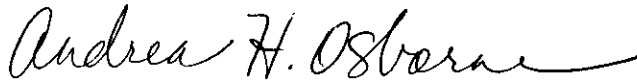
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